

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO†

EXCERPTS FROM OUR STATE MEDICAL JOURNAL

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From Some Editorial Notes:

Appreciation? No! Abuse!—The energetic efforts of the medical profession to protect the people against preventable diseases and epidemics are evidently neither desired nor appreciated by the people. In San Francisco and other places, great resentment was expressed because the medical profession urged strict muzzling laws in order to stamp out rabies—a disease so easily prevented and yet so entirely incurable. In various parts of the State we have today smallpox; and at last the type has changed and become virulent, just as has been expected. And yet the people do not want protection against this easily prevented disease; they will wipe out even the present poor vaccination law at the next session of the Legislature. They will not allow the State Board of Health to properly guard and control sources of water supply, and so a number of sections are having epidemics of typhoid—another easily prevented disease. In the south the physicians of Los Angeles forced an active and successful fight against poliomyelitis; did the people appreciate it? Not at all; they heaped abuse upon the men who had given their time and their work for the people's benefit. Quarantine "hurts business"? . . .

From an Article on "Labor in Moderately Contracted Pelves, with Special Reference to Cesarean Section" by Henry J. Kreutzmann, M.D., San Francisco.—Progress in science and practice of medicine has never been made in a steady, onward march, nor in a straight line; but always by leaps and bounds in a zigzag line, with many side steps. All the different branches of medicine are subject to this rule; obstetrics does not make any exception. . . .

From an Article on "Operative and Postoperative Tonsillar Hemorrhage" by W. S. Franklin, M.D., San Francisco.—The essayist in presenting this paper does not attempt a digest of the literature on the control of operative and postoperative tonsillar hemorrhage, but wishes to give an account of his operative experience with the enucleation of the tonsil and the means found successful in controlling the bleeding.

For the past six years my work in tonsillar surgery has been what may be called radical, inasmuch as the tonsil-lotome has been discarded, as well as slitting the lacunae, cauterization, and the use of the punch. In all cases removal of the entire tonsillar mass, including the intact capsule, was attempted. . . .

From an Article on "Thrombosis of the Sigmoid Sinus and Jugular Vein, From Direct Tympanic Infection of the Jugular Bulb—A Report of Two Cases" by Hill Hastings, M.D., Los Angeles.—One, if not both, of these cases comes, I believe, under the classification of direct jugular bulb infection, from acute middle-ear suppuration. Similar cases have been reported from time to time during the past few years, but not a sufficient number put on record to impress the general profession with the possibility of the rapid development of this dangerous complication. . . .

From an Article on "Patulous Anus: Its Clinical Significance" by Alfred J. Zobel, M.D., San Francisco.—In a normal individual the anal canal is held closed tightly by the tonic contraction of its sphincter muscles. In certain individuals, however, we observe that when the buttocks are drawn apart there is more or less gaping of the anal orifice. . . .

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† This column strives to mirror the work and aims of colleagues who bore the brunt of Association work some twenty-five years ago. It is hoped that such presentation will be of interest to both old and new members.

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA†

By CHARLES B. PINKHAM, M.D.
Secretary-Treasurer

Board Proceedings

The annual meeting of the Board of Medical Examiners opened at the State Capitol, Sacramento, October 18, at 10 a. m.

Approximately sixty applicants, including physicians and surgeons, chiroprodists, and drugless practitioners, appeared for written examination.

Twenty-three licentiates have been cited before the Board, to show cause why their licenses should not be revoked, based on various charges, including alleged illegal operations, narcotic derelictions, and violation of probation. The judgment of the Board in each case will be included in "News Items" for December.

News

"The California Supreme Court yesterday denied a writ of habeas corpus to E. B. Hartman, former San Bernardino chiropractor, who contended he was illegally held in San Bernardino jail. The court ordered Hartman, who has been at liberty on \$200 bond, pending hearing, to serve the remaining ninety days of his jail term. Hartman, convicted on two charges of violating the State Medical Act, carried his fight for freedom from the Justice Court conviction through the Superior, Appellate, and Supreme courts. Two appeals to the Supreme Court of his conviction were denied. In his petition for a writ, Hartman alleged that one of two charges on which he was convicted was unconstitutional. He had served ninety days of his sentence of 180 days when he filed the petition for a writ last March and was released pending the hearing. In January, this year, Hartman was convicted by a jury in San Bernardino township court for using the term 'Dr.' before his name without also identifying himself as a chiropractor and also for practicing medicine without a license. Each count brought a sentence of 180 days, the terms to run concurrently. A year before, Hartman was convicted of similar charges and paid a fine of \$180. Attorney Joseph Seymour of Riverside, who represented Hartman, contended that the conviction on the charge of practicing medicine without a license was unconstitutional because the verdict of the jury was not supported by law and evidence. Hartman has given notice to District Attorney Jerome B. Cavanaugh that he shall surrender and serve the term, as ordered by the Supreme Court." (San Bernardino Sun, October 2, 1937.) (Previous entries, July, September, November, 1935; January, March, April, 1936.) (See Hartman vs. Board of Chiropractic Examiners, 89 California Appellate Decisions, p. 100; In re Hartman for writ of habeas corpus, 83 California Appellate Decisions, p. 647.)

"Request that the State Medical Board investigate charges of Mrs. Kathleen Lewis that Dr. Cecil Reynolds hypnotized her was made yesterday by Superior Judge Joseph W. Vickers. Mrs. Lewis, dress manufacturer, was denied a new trial of the suit brought against her by Doctor Reynolds, as assignee for two hospitals, and another doctor, in which \$537 judgment was entered against her. Doctor Reynolds sought \$3,332. Her defense during the trial was that Doctor Reynolds hypnotized her into believing she was in a serious physical condition. 'In denying this motion for a new trial, I request the State Medical Board to make a thorough investigation of Mrs. Lewis' charges,' stated Judge Vickers." (Los Angeles Examiner, October 8, 1937.)

According to an article printed in the Los Angeles Herald-Express, October 11, 1937, the United States Supreme Court at Washington upheld the constitutionality of the California Medical Practice Act, when it denied a review sought by Arthur O. Borland, Ray A. Borland, and

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† The office addresses of the California State Board of Medical Examiners are printed in the roster on advertising page 6.